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BY :

WILLIAM H. WEBSTER

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

AT THE

DEDICATION OF THE EDWARD P. BOLAND ROOM

WASHINGTON, D.C.

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DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,

IT IS NO SMALL THING TO HAVE ONE'S NAME ABOVE A ROOM IN THE CAPITOL. IT IS NO SMALL THING TO HAVE PROTECTED BOTH THE SECRETS OF ONE'S COUNTRY AND THE MEANS OF OBTAINING THEM.

AS THE FIRST CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, CONGRESSMAN BOLAND SET THE STANDARD. HE OPPOSED UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURES -- ARGUING THAT WILLFUL DISCLOSURE OF THE NAMES OF COVERT INTELLIGENCE AGENTS, "DOES NOT FURTHER CIVIL LIBERTIES, DOES NOT BRING CLARITY TO ISSUES OF NATIONAL POLICY, DOES NOT ENLIGHTEN PUBLIC DEBATE." HE MAINTAINED PUBLICLY THAT SUCH DISCLOSURE "BENEFITS NO ONE

BUT OUR ADVERSARIES." HE ALSO RECOGNIZED THAT THE CHIEF AIM OF INTELLIGENCE WAS TO PRESENT THE TRUTH, AND HE DEFENDED AND PROMOTED THAT ROLE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

HIS PUBLIC SUPPORT OF H.R. 5615, THE INTELLIGENCE IDENTITIES PROTECTION ACT, GAVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE HOW HE OPERATED. DEFENDING THIS IMPORTANT LEGISLATION, HE OBSERVED: "THE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN VERY SENSITIVE TO CONSTITUTIONAL CLAIMS. WE RECOGNIZE THE FIRST AMENDMENT IMPLICATIONS. WE HAVE SPENT MANY HOURS CRAFTING A BILL THAT RESPONDS TO THE DISCLOSURE PROBLEM WITHOUT SACRIFICING CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS." HE COUNTERED OPPOSITION, REASONING, "A BILL SO NARROWLY FOCUSED THREATENS NO ONE'S FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS; AT THE SAME TIME IT IS THE MINIMUM

NECESSARY RESPONSE TO THE OBNOXIOUS ACTIVITIES OF THOSE WHO MAKE IT A PRACTICE TO FERRET OUT AND THEN EXPOSE OUR UNDERCOVER OFFICERS AND AGENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESTROYING OUR INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITIES."

THERE WERE MANY ISSUES AND MUCH DEBATE DURING HIS TENURE AS CHAIRMAN OF HPSCI. AND MANY OF HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS WILL NEVER HAVE PUBLIC RECOGNITION. BUT THERE IS ONE QUALITY THAT THE PUBLIC CAN ACKNOWLEDGE: WHATEVER THE ISSUE, THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A DANGER THAT ONE MIGHT NOT KNOW WHERE EDDIE BOLAND STOOD.

SO FOR HIS BIPARTISAN LEADERSHIP, HIS TENACITY, HIS INTEGRITY, HIS TOUGHNESS, HIS DETERMINATION THAT THE NEEDS OF

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE BE MET AND THAT THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES BE PRESERVED, WE JOIN IN HONORING CONGRESSMAN BOLAND.

AND WE THINK IT ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE THAT THE EDWARD P. BOLAND ROOM BE A ROOM WITH SOME HISTORY. IT WAS HERE THAT THE MEETINGS OF THE JOINT ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE WERE HELD. THIS ROOM HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AS A PLACE WHERE SECRETS WERE TOLD AND SECRETS WERE KEPT. AND IT IS FITTING THAT THIS ROOM NOW WILL BEAR THE NAME OF THE MAN WHO FIRST DEMONSTRATED THAT EFFECTIVE OVERSIGHT OF INTELLIGENCE CAN BE REALIZED IN A DEMOCRATIC NATION WITHOUT RISK TO THE INTELLIGENCE PROCESS.